

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is noted with appreciation that claims 1-9 and 11-16 have been allowed.

The Examiner objected to claim 10 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to limit the subject matter of the previous claim. Applicant has amended claim 10 as submitted herewith by deleting the word -- comprising -- and substituting "consisting of" therefor. Applicant believes that the submitted claim 10 fulfills the statutory requirements for patentability. No new matter has been added by way of amendment.

The Examiner also objected to the abstract of the disclosure for exceeding 150 words in length. Applicant has corrected this in the amended abstract submitted herewith, which is now exactly 150 words in length. Applicant believes that the submitted amended abstract fulfills the statutory requirements.

Additionally, in order to expedite the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, withdrawn claims 17-19 have been cancelled.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that each of the claims 1-16 are now in condition for allowance and the Notice of Allowance thereof is respectfully requested to be issued. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss any matters pertaining to the present application.

Date: 3/15/05

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP
55 East Monroe Street, Suite 4200
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Telephone: (312) 269-8552

Respectfully submitted

By:

Timothy J. Keefer
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 35,567

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 3/15/05

Irene A. Siegler